

DATE OF MEETING | FEBRUARY 3, 2020 |

AUTHORED BY | SKY SNELGROVE, STENO COORDINATOR/DEPUTY CORPORATE OFFICER

SUBJECT | **ASSOCIATION OF VANCOUVER ISLAND AND COASTAL COMMUNITIES RESOLUTION – WHISTLEBLOWER LEGISLATION**

## **OVERVIEW**

### **Purpose of Report**

To obtain Council direction regarding a resolution for submission to the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities Convention. |

### **Recommendation**

That Council direct Staff to submit the following resolution to the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities for consideration at their 2020 Annual General Meeting:

WHEREAS Whistleblower legislation has become statute for provincial government employees;

AND WHEREAS Local Government does not have an independent third party to receive whistleblower complaints or concerns;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of British Columbia Municipalities create an independent third party to handle complaints and concerns of local government employees and officials or lobby the Provincial Government to expand their program to include Local Government.

## **BACKGROUND**

The Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities (AVICC) 2020 Annual General Meeting will be held April 17-19, 2020 in Nanaimo. AVICC members are invited to submit resolutions on topics that fall under local government purview, are specific and focus on new issues of provincial or AVICC-wide interest. Resolutions that are endorsed at AVICC are automatically forwarded to the Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) conference for debate.

At the Special Governance and Priorities Committee Meeting held 2020-JAN-20, the Governance and Priorities Committee passed the following motion:

*It was moved and seconded that the Governance and Priorities Committee recommend that Council forward a resolution regarding Whistleblower Legislation to the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities for consideration.*

Staff have drafted a resolution for Council's consideration and are requesting Council's direction to proceed.

## **DISCUSSION**

The deadline to submit resolutions to AVICC is Thursday, February 6, 2020. |

## **OPTIONS**

1. That Council direct Staff to submit the following resolution to the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities for consideration at their 2020 Annual General Meeting:

WHEREAS Whistleblower legislation has become statute for provincial government employees;

AND WHEREAS Local Government does not have an independent third party to receive whistleblower complaints or concerns;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of British Columbia Municipalities create an independent third party to handle complaints and concerns of local government employees and officials or lobby the Provincial Government to expand their program to include Local Government.

- The advantages of this option: The draft resolution will be forwarded to AVICC within the deadline.
  - The disadvantages of this option: If Council wishes to make changes to the resolution, any changes would need to be made at the Council meeting due to the upcoming AVICC resolution deadline.
  - Financial Implications: There are no financial implications identified at this time.
2. That Council provide alternative direction.
    - The advantages of this option: Council may wish to adjust the wording of the draft resolution.
    - The disadvantages of this option: The deadline for submission is Thursday, February 6, 2020 and any changes would need to be made during the Council meeting.
    - Financial Implications: There are no financial implications identified at this time. |

## **SUMMARY POINTS**

- The Governance and Priorities Committee identified Whistleblower Legislation as a resolution topic for submission to the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities Convention.
- Council is requested to provide direction regarding the draft resolution.
- The deadline for submission to AVICC is 2020-FEB-06.

**Submitted by:**

Sheila Gurrie  
Director, Legislative Services